

Next Meeting: April 3, 2002
10:00 a.m. – Thorburn Center - Ingham ISD (Rooms B and C)

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of March 6, 2002, Meeting
10:00 a.m.

Present: Carolyn Belknap Bartz, Kathleen Clegg, Glenda Hammond, Nancy Jackson, Jill Jacobs, Chris Lerchen (for Kim Kaster), Patricia Keller, Brenda Kotsis, Shari Krishnan, Peggy McNeilly, Patricia Metz, Pam Mish, Brian Pianosi, Debs Roush, Larry Simpson, Patricia St. George, Don Trap, Laurie VanderPloeg, Steve Wessels, Anne White-O'Hara
Ex-Officio members: Doug Nurenberg (for Shari Falvay), Lynn Boza (for Rosanne Renauer), Craig Sparks, David Brock (for Jacquelyn Thompson)

Absent: Jill Blixt, Deborah Canja, Michael DeVault, Bob Opsommer, Ginny Palubin, Sue Rabidioux, Deb Russell, Randall VanGasse

OSE/EIS Staff: Sue Leach

Guests: Phyllis Cox-Rebori, Veronica Garza, Marge Joslin, Paul Kubicek, Sandi Laham, Lisa Matter, Jerry Oermann, Vikki Seger, Martha Wilson (for Deborah Canja)

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Laurie VanderPloeg.

Roll Call

Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

Introduction of Guests

Guests attending the meeting were introduced.

Amend/Approve Proposed Agenda

The agenda of the March 6, 2002, meeting was considered. Patricia St. George moved, seconded by Brian Pianosi, to approve the agenda as written. The motion carried.

Amend/Approve Minutes

The minutes of the February 6, 2002, meeting were considered. Steve Wessels moved, seconded by Brenda Kotsis, to approve the minutes. The motion carried.

Public Comment

None.

Chairperson's Report – Laurie VanderPloeg

SEAC members were notified that Deb Russell will be absent from today's meeting.

SEAC members were reminded to complete and return their evaluation forms. The evaluation forms, in conjunction with the roll call will be used to log CEU credits.

The April 3, 2002, SEAC meeting will be held as scheduled. The Committee of the Whole was polled at the February 6, 2002, meeting and a quorum is expected.

An update on the IDEA Reauthorization was presented by Shari Krishnan at Laurie's request. Shari indicated that the recommendation for application was submitted. It is unlikely that Shari would be called to testify due to the fact that approximately 80% of the participants have already been selected. Shari has indicated that she will continue to follow-up on the progress of the expert testimony process and that if she should be called to testify, she will do so. Shari also indicated that she will continue to keep the SEAC up-to-date on any progress through e-mails to the listserv.

State Department Report – David Brock

David Brock conducted a review and presentation of the proposed Special Education Rules. David spoke to all the changes that were made referencing the handout that was provided. Each change was reviewed and any questions or concerns were addressed.

Superintendent Tom Watkins made a recommendation at the February 14, 2002, State Board Meeting that the Rules be approved and that motion was carried. The Rules have been forwarded to the Office of Regulatory Reform from Mr. Watkin's office and a copy has also been forwarded to the Legislative Services Bureau. The Legislative Services Bureau will first review and then certify the Rules. From there the Rules will be put before the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules who will have only limited authority to make any changes. Any changes or adjustments to the rules would need to be submitted by the Joint Committee within 21 days. It is expected that the final rules package should be completed by July 1.

David Brock and the Policy unit staff are conducting training on the Rule changes.

Discussion and questions followed.

State Board Meeting Report – David Brock

David Brock reiterated the fact that the State Board of Education approved the proposed Rules for Special Education.

The State Board held a committee of the whole meeting at Wayne State University on March 4, 2002, to discuss accreditation. The Board is expected to take action at its April 11, 2002, meeting.

The Board reviewed the SEAC request for three Member-at-Large seats on the SEAC, as well as modifications to three Intermediate School District plans.

Information Items

A. Revised Bylaws and Procedural Information

1. Recommendation to Update Bylaws

Brian Pianosi provided a brief review of the proposed changes to the SEAC Bylaws. This detail has been provided as information only and will be voted on by the Committee of the Whole at the May 1, 2002, SEAC meeting.

2. Recommendation to establish a procedure for filling organizational membership vacancies

Brian Pianosi reviewed the recommendation for filling organizational vacancies on the SEAC. This detail has been provided as information only and will be voted on by the Committee of the Whole at the May 1, 2002, SEAC meeting.

Discussion followed.

3. Recommendation to clarify parliamentary procedures and the Vice Chairperson's role as a parliamentary resource

Brian Pianosi indicated the Operations Committee recommended that the 2002 retreat include educating all SEAC members on parliamentary procedures. This detail has been provided as information only and will be voted on by the Committee of the Whole at the May 1, 2002, SEAC meeting.

B. State Board of Education Position Statement on Inclusive Education

Steve Wessels reported that it has been the charge of the Policy Committee to review and update this Position Statement and that the Committee has been working on this Policy for approximately two years. Past Policy Committees had suggested the removal of the 13 steps; the current committee recommends the 10 steps presented. These steps should be looked at as guiding principles, which should help to strengthen and add to a program, not have a negative impact. This detail has been provided as information only and will be voted on by the Committee of the Whole at the May 1, 2002, SEAC meeting.

Discussion followed.

Action Items

A. None

Ex-Officio Reports

Michigan Department of Community Health — Doug Nurenborg indicated that as a result of the changes in the proposed Special Education Rules, the criteria for eligibility for family support program will be revised.

Changes to the 1915b waiver which provides services to persons with mental illness are currently underway. The Department of Community Health has requested bids to provide services not go out for the whole mental health system, but that community mental health providers should be given the opportunity to provide services. Forty-eight community mental health service providers have formed 18 affiliations. These 18 affiliations have submitted their

applications for services. Essentially, Community Mental Health will be running under a managed care system.

Michigan Department of Career Development/Rehabilitation Services — Lynn Boza indicated that the Michigan Department of Career Development/Rehabilitation Services is currently conducting a two-day training program for staff involved with students who are hearing impaired.

The NTSA conferences are being held March 5-6.

Changes with Social Security are currently being discussed including a ticket to work program.

Committee Reports

Operations — Brian Pianosi requested the assistance of three committee members to help with counting the Executive Committee nomination ballots. Pat Metz, Carolyn Belknap-Bartz, and Steve Wessels volunteered.

Policy — Steve Wessels reported that the Policy Committee will begin working on the issue of Parent Advisory Committees (PACs).

State Improvement Plan — Shari Krishnan reported that Vikki Seger will be sharing her Access to the General Curriculum presentation made at CEC with the SIP committee.

Member Issues

Pat Keller noted that the statewide PAC conference this year will be held on August 1 and 2, 2002.

Future Agenda Items:

Bernie Travnikar is scheduled to present April 3, 2002. The presentation to SEAC will include a summary of the last 1,000 days and the next 1,000 days.

Vicki Seger may return to the SEAC to present her Access to the General Curriculum presentation to SEAC Committee of the Whole.

The meeting was adjourned to subcommittee meetings.

Monica Butler
Recording Secretary

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Executive Committee
Minutes of March 6, 2002, Meeting
8:45 a.m.

Present: Shari Krishnan, Pat Metz, Brian Pianosi, Laurie VanderPloeg, Steve Wessels,
David Brock, Sandi Laham, Sue Leach

Review of Today's Agenda

The agenda was reviewed, agenda changes will include: David Brock will present the State Department Report.

Future Agenda Development

Bernie Travnika will present at April 3, 2002, SEAC Committee of the Whole, covering the last 1,000 days and next 1,000 days of PBS.

State Department Report

David Brock will provide a review of proposed the Rules for Special Education and specifically outline the proposed changes.

Subcommittee Reports

Subcommittee Chairs reported on the work of their committees. Updates will be shared with the Committee of the Whole.

Operations — Brian Pianosi reported that he will provide a brief review of the Bylaws recommendation that the Operations Committee is presenting to the SEAC. The recommendation is being presented at this meeting for information only and will be voted on at the May 1, 2002, SEAC meeting.

SIP — Shari Krishnan reported that Vikki Seger will present her CEC presentation on Access to General Curriculum. The SIP committee will bring back information to the SEAC on this presentation. Vikki may be asked to return at a later date to provide her presentation to the Committee of the Whole.

Policy — Steve Wessels reported that he will provide a brief overview of the recommendation that the Policy Committee is providing to the SEAC. This recommendations is for information only and will be voted on at the May 1, 2002, SEAC Committee of the Whole

Miscellaneous

The Committee discussed the issue of visitor participation in Subcommittee meetings. The question is, to what extent should visitors participate in subcommittee meetings? It has been noted that this is not an issue for the Bylaws but for the Chair of the meeting. Suggestions have been made to provide “guest rules” on the table prior to any meetings and be sure to cover the Committee meeting ground rules prior to any meeting where guests are in attendance. It was suggested that the Chairs of the subcommittees build consensus on how visitor participation is addressed.

Submitted by
Monica Butler